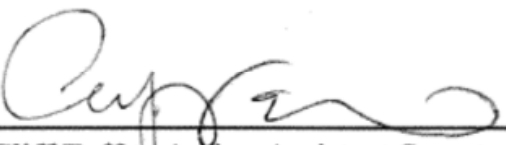




**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**Community Planning and Development**

HUD Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building  
FR-5800-N-12

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cliff Taffet, Acting Assistant Secretary  
Office of Community Planning and Development

6/2/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

HUD Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

FR-5800-N-12

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## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Program Office:** Community Planning and Development  
**Funding Opportunity Title:** HUD Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building  
**Announcement Type:** Initial  
**Funding Opportunity Number:** FR-5800-N-12  
**Primary CFDA Number:** 14.259  
**Due Date for Applications:** **July 23, 2014**

Community Compass is HUD's integrated technical assistance and capacity building initiative and is a collaborative effort among HUD, our customers and successful applicants focused on equipping communities with the knowledge, skills, tools, capacity, and systems to implement HUD programs and policies successfully. Recognizing that HUD's customers often interact with a variety of HUD programs as they deliver housing or community development services, Community Compass brings together technical assistance investments from across HUD program offices, including but not limited to the Office of Community Planning and Development, the Office of Housing, and the Office of Public and Indian Housing.

The selection process under this NOFA may include providers with a broad range of skills and expertise as well as providers with more focused or targeted skills and expertise. Selected providers may work collaboratively in teams and will be deployed as HUD deems most necessary across the country to achieve these objectives. HUD does not provide funding to nor does it accept applications from individuals for this or any NOFA competition.

Questions on this NOFA may be directed to [communitycompass@hud.gov](mailto:communitycompass@hud.gov).

### **Additional Overview Information:**

1. Incorporation of the General Section. HUD publishes a General Section each fiscal year that contains *mandatory requirements* for all applicants to HUD's competitive grant programs including this NOFA. Applicants must meet all of the requirements of the General Section in addition to the requirements of this NOFA to be considered and to receive funding. The full title of the General Section is General Section for Fiscal Year 2014 Discretionary Programs. It can be found on Grants.gov and on HUD's Funds Available webpage at [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail).

2. OMB Approval Number(s):

2506-0197

HUD's Community Compass initiative (Community Compass) funds technical assistance, capacity building, and data research activities for HUD's customers, including grantees, public housing authorities, and tribes. Community Compass builds on the previous OneCPD Plus program and is an outcome-focused, cross-Departmental approach to HUD's technical assistance and capacity building activities. A list of the programs, objectives, and funding included in this NOFA can be found in Section I. Funding Opportunity Description.

## **I. Funding Opportunity Description.**

### **A. Program Description and Requirements.**

Through this NOFA, HUD is announcing the availability of approximately \$51 million to fund Community Compass, HUD's integrated technical assistance and capacity building initiative. Community Compass is designed to help HUD's customers navigate complex housing and community development challenges by equipping them with the knowledge, skills, tools, capacity, and systems to implement HUD programs and policies successfully. The goal of Community Compass is to empower communities by providing effective technical assistance and capacity building so that successful program implementation is sustained over the long term. Community Compass technical assistance and capacity building activities include needs assessments, direct TA, development of tools and training, self-directed and group learning, data analysis, and regulatory and policy implementation support. Community Compass also includes data analysis and research activities.

Recognizing that HUD's customers often interact with a variety of HUD programs as they deliver housing or community development services, Community Compass brings together technical assistance investments from across HUD program offices, including the Office of Community Planning and Development, the Office of Housing, and the Office of Public and Indian Housing. Successful applicants may be asked to deliver TA related to the following programs, policies, systems, and initiatives:

- Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing Administrative Receiverships, Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD), Choice Neighborhoods, Jobs Plus, Section 8 and other project based rental assistance, Section 202 Direct Loan program, Section 236 program, Better Buildings Challenge Partners
- Housing Counseling, FHA Small Buildings and Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Pilot, Section 8bb, and Section 214
- Homeless Assistance Programs: Continuum of Care (CoC), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), Rural Housing Stability Program, and McKinney-Vento Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)
- Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly, Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities, Services Coordinator Program, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR), and the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS)

- Economic Development initiatives (EDI), Brownfields Economic Development Initiatives (BEDI), Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED) Programs, Rural Innovation Fund (RIF) program, Promise Zones
- Indian Housing Block Grant, Native Hawaiian Block Grant, and other Native American and Native Hawaiian Programs

Information about these programs, including their missions, goals, and activities, can be accessed through the HUD web site at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).

Community Compass is centrally managed by HUD Headquarters with involvement of the HUD field offices. The selection process under this NOFA may include providers with a broad range of skills and expertise as well as providers with more focused or targeted skills and expertise. Applicants are encouraged to procure subcontractors and consultants to demonstrate expertise across a wide-range of HUD programs as well as in specific skills and policy areas.

#### 1. Community Compass Eligible Activities

In order to assist HUD customers, successful applicants may be tasked to perform any of the following eligible activities.

a. Needs Assessments. Needs assessments of customers will determine the nature and scope of technical assistance and capacity building needed. In some instances, self-assessment by the customer or a field office assessment may provide a satisfactory basis for determining the scope and scale of technical and capacity building assistance. In other cases, awardees will conduct onsite or remote needs assessments to collect information about the capacity gaps of the identified customer. The needs assessment will involve the use of multiple types of information collection and analysis, such as the Consolidated Plan, Public Housing Annual Plan, Indian Housing Plan, Tribal Performance Assessments, Analysis of Impediments to fair housing choice (AI), HUD monitoring results, funds obligation and expenditures, and CPD maps. Needs assessments may also assist customers with quantifying the impact of community and economic development initiatives, and identifying local market conditions so that program resources may be better targeted and leveraged. The culmination of an onsite needs assessment will be a detailed report and recommended scope of work.

b. Direct Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Engagements. Awardees will be tasked to work onsite and/or remotely with HUD's customers including federally-recognized Indian tribes and tribal entities and public housing authorities. An engagement may consist of technical assistance to multiple HUD programs and/or for multiple issue areas or to a single program or issue area. Direct technical assistance may also include furthering innovative practices, the operation of one or more virtual help desks, or addressing questions and issues raised by HUD's customers.

Direct TA includes PHA Administrative Receivership and Recovery. Awardees may be tasked to assist the HUD administrative receiver in order to build capacity to improve PHA operations and performance long-term.

c. Develop and Maintain Tools and Products. Tools and products developed will use adult learning principles to assist HUD customers with understanding complex program statutes

and regulations, as well as the other Federal requirements (e.g., Davis-Bacon wage rates, Section 3, civil rights compliance, environmental justice and environmental standards, accessibility for persons with disabilities) that often apply to these programs. These products might take the form of web-based courses or training's, videos, interactive tools, and webinars that address the constantly changing needs of customers and program requirements. Tool and product development may also include the creation of templates, desk guides, and tool kits that improve program management and operations, the development and administration of websites, evaluation, and performance measurement. Where appropriate, HUD program and other Federal requirements, such as affirmatively furthering fair housing, will be integrated into comprehensive products that will serve the technical assistance needs of a broad range of program partners. All products and tools developed will comply with Section 508 accessibility requirements.

d. Self-Directed and Group Learning. Self-directed and group learning is intended to increase capacity and close competency gaps of participants by equipping them with the necessary program knowledge and skill sets needed to administer and manage HUD programs. Group learning will incorporate adult learning principles that may include delivery of HUD-approved training courses either remotely or in person, online self-directed courses, problem-solving clinics, policy academies, live or pre-recorded webinars, curricula, and peer-to-peer assistance exchanges for customers with similar local market contexts, challenges, opportunities, and community needs.

e. Knowledge Management. Knowledge management includes the development, operation, maintenance, and/or hosting of websites to support the technical assistance, capacity building, and training needs of HUD's customers. This may include integrated learning or curriculum management systems, database of resources, tools, and information for a range of HUD customers, development of interactive tools to assist with program design and management, providing information on HUD grantees, including awards, expenditures, action plans, and environmental reviews, and tracking of technical assistance engagements and resource development.

f. Data reporting, analysis and management. This includes assistance analyzing data to better understand the impact of program, policy, and reporting changes on grantees, trends in grantee performance, and grantee technical assistance needs, as well as assisting grantees with using and reporting data. It also includes data validation, development and training on dashboard and reporting tools, responding to regular and ad hoc data analysis or data calls requested by HUD, and preparation of reports for HUD, its customers, and Congress, such as Volumes 1 and 2 of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) using established research parameters.

This also includes operation of the HMIS Data Lab, which enables the testing of data collection methods, reporting frameworks, database structure, etc. prior to HUD establishing implementation deadlines and requirements. Conducting these activities prior to publishing deadlines and requirements will maximize the validity of HMIS data collection and reporting as well as regular and ad hoc data analysis or data calls requested by HUD. Upon completion of the testing, training materials will be developed and delivered to grantees. The HMIS Data Lab will use actual data collected in a local HMIS but no identifying data will be submitted to HUD. The aggregate data provided to HUD may be used for a variety

of purposes, such as understanding the scope and impact of changes to data collection or reporting requirements set by HUD, the level of effort and practicability of implementing the changes for grantees and HMIS administrators, and identifying and prioritizing tools, products and training modules to assist grantees implement required changes. The HMIS Data Lab may also include a component dedicated to distributing reporting modalities, mobile applications for data collection, maintenance and support of reporting tools using data CSV and/or XML and related products, training modules and customer support.

g. NAHASDA Allocation Formula Administration and Negotiated Rulemaking Support. Support for administration of the Indian Housing Block Grant Allocation Formula and related formula negotiated rulemaking, as eligible TA activities under NAHASDA TA, includes administration of the allocation formula, assistance with formula determinations, census challenges, notification letters, data correction and reports, as well as consultation assistance to the Department for all negotiated rulemaking with Indian tribes.

## 2. Community Compass Objectives

Through the activities described above, Community Compass intends to improve the ability of HUD's customers to achieve the following:

- a. Facilitate local collaboration, strategic planning, and service coordination among HUD customers and stakeholders, including jurisdictions, Continuums of Care, public housing authorities, and non-profit organizations and consultation with tribes. Planning may include input on and development of Consolidated Plans, Analyses of Impediments to Fair Housing, PHA plans, tribal plans, and other community planning processes, and should use data to inform decision-making.
- b. Develop and implement strategies to repair, preserve and recapitalize federally assisted rental housing, tribal housing, public housing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and other multifamily and single family affordable housing that uses HUD grant funds such as HOME or CDBG.
- c. Improve financial, management, physical and governance deficiencies at public and tribal housing agencies and tribally-designated housing entities, state and local units of government, and nonprofit customers and build capacity to sustain these improvements in performance over the long term.
- d. Ensure that a PHA is financially and operationally viable and can provide safe, well-maintained housing units that are viable over the long term.
- e. Design and implement programs for affordable housing and community and economic development, including assessing local housing markets and effectively targeting resources.
- f. Provide housing and supportive services for special needs populations, including homeless individuals and families and those at risk of homelessness, elderly individuals, disabled individuals, persons with HIV/AIDS, veterans, and youth. Implement evidence-based practices around housing with supportive services, including targeting priority populations, leveraging a range of funds, and collaboration with federal and state-funded health services and community based health care services.
- g. Facilitate better delivery of housing counseling services, through networks of housing counseling agencies, improve accessibility of services to city and county residents, and

increase awareness among nonprofits, city agencies, and the public that housing counseling services are available. Increase homebuyer knowledge by providing homebuyer education, individualized counseling, and access to information and resources.

h. Increase understanding of strategies to reduce energy consumption, on-site renewable energy deployment and related financing to accelerate clean energy solutions. Track and benchmark energy and water usage in order to realize cost savings and improve energy and water efficiency through new and existing tools, such as EPA Portfolio Manager, the Physical Needs Assessment, or the Capital Needs Assessment.

i. Improve management of HUD funding, including compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and resolution of HUD monitoring findings and/or audit findings. Compliance includes all applicable fair housing and civil rights laws, including, but not limited to, the Fair Housing Act of 1968, Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

j. Develop and implement policies and procedures that support affirmatively furthering fair housing, per applicable federal regulations, and employment, training, and contracting opportunities to low- and very low-income persons and the businesses that employ them (Section 3, Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968).

k. Ensure that Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) funds are used effectively and effective delivery of housing and NAHASDA eligible services, including providing access to housing that is safe and healthy, including mold prevention and remediation and improving air quality.

l. Assist with IHBG formula administration, including managing formula-related correspondence with grantees, formula determinations, processing census challenges, data correction, reporting, and providing logistical and technical support for the Department's negotiated rulemaking with Indian tribes, and effective delivery of affordable housing, implementation of HUD's Indian programs, and consultation support.

m. Develop and implement strategies for improved data collection, validity, analysis and use by customers for reporting, planning, decision making, measuring performance, and tracking outcomes, including data for the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), Annual Performance Report, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), Tribal Performance Assessments, Choice Neighborhoods reports, and other reports and analyses as assigned. Assist customers with using data to drive decision making and assess program effectiveness, and use data to identify trends and needs related to HUD's customers.

n. Effective management, use, and reporting of HMIS data, including coordination and facilitation of federal partners and HMIS vendors, maintenance and support of reporting tools, distributed reporting models, mobile applications for data collection and reporting, identifying data gaps, opportunities to use and publish data to increase transparency, usability testing and user focus groups.

o. Use technology and the internet for effective knowledge management to improve access to information and resources, build skills, reduce errors, enhance data collection, and streamline processing requests for assistance via websites, mobile applications, virtual help



desks, remote and virtual learning modalities, and automated tools and calculators.

### 3. Terms and Definitions.

- **Technical Assistance** is guidance which enables HUD's customers to overcome a lack of specific skills or knowledge of the associated HUD programs and, by doing so, results in the successful performance and compliance of those programs.
- **Capacity Building** is assistance which increases the ability of HUD's customers and their partners to organize and independently implement and manage affordable housing, community development, and economic development programs.
- **Cooperative Agreement** is an award of financial assistance that is used to enter into the same kind of relationship as a grant and is distinguished from a grant in that it provides for substantial involvement between the federal agency and the recipient in carrying out the activity contemplated by the award.
- **Customers** are recipients or beneficiaries of HUD funding including state and local grantees, public housing agencies, owners and managers of HUD-assisted housing, Continuums of Care (CoCs), non-profit grantees, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Leads, HUD-approved housing counseling agencies and counselors, tribal organizations, Indian tribes, tribally designated housing entities (TDHE), FHA-approved multifamily lenders, and residents and participants in HUD-funded programs.
- **Demand-Response System** is the means by which HUD, its customers and/or its partners identify technical assistance and capacity building needs. HUD prioritizes the identified needs based on Departmental, programmatic and jurisdictional priorities. Successful applicants are then tasked with responding to identified needs. Successful applicants may not respond to direct requests for technical assistance from HUD customers. HUD is solely responsible for determining the entities to be assisted, the location, and the nature of the assistance to be provided, which must be part of a HUD-approved work plan for each engagement.
- **Government Technical Monitor (GTM)** is the individual designated to provide technical monitoring, advice, and assistance to aid the GTR in the technical direction and evaluation of the awardee's performance. For offices participating in the HUD technical assistance activities other than CPD, the GTM provides programmatic expertise and input to proposed technical assistance work plans, status reports, invoices, and products.
- **Government Technical Representative (GTR)** is the individual who is responsible for the technical direction and evaluation of the awardee's performance. The GTR is responsible for review and approval of work plans, status reports, invoices, and products.
- **Program Office Technical Assistance Coordinator (POTAC)** – the individual who coordinates TA activities for the programs within their office. The POTAC provides, or designates subject matter experts (SMEs) to provide, technical monitoring, advice, and assistance to aid the GTR in the technical direction and evaluation of the awardee's performance.

- **TI TA** is the Transformation Initiative (TI) funding allocated for technical assistance.
- **Outcomes** are results achieved or benefits derived from the technical assistance or capacity building, such as changes in customer's management or operation of HUD-funded programs and activities.
- **Outputs** are deliverables such as products and group learning opportunities, usually quantified by number produced, number delivered, number of attendees, etc. Does not measure a change in HUD customer's behavior or circumstance.

## **B. Authority.**

This program is authorized under: the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76), the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), Section 6(j)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S. C. 1437d(j)(3)) and Section 17 and 18 of the Annual Contributions Contract (HUD 53012A 7/95), and McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11361b and 42 USC 11408.

## **II. Award Information.**

### **A. Available Funds.**

HUD is making available through this NOFA **\$51,000,000** for HUD Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building .

Additional funds may become available for award under this NOFA as a result of HUD's efforts to recapture unused funds, use carryover funds, or because of the availability of additional appropriated funds. Use of these funds will be subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the applicable funding restrictions described in the General Section and to those contained in this NOFA.

HUD estimates awarding the following amounts under each funding source:

1. Transformation Initiative TA Funding: \$24 million
2. McKinney-Vento HEARTH TA: \$10 million
3. McKinney-Vento National Data Analysis Project (formerly HMIS TA): \$6 million
4. Public Housing Administrative Receivership and Recovery: \$3 million
5. Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) TA: \$8 million, including:
  - A minimum of \$3 million for national or regional organizations representing Native American housing interests
  - A minimum of \$300,000 for training and technical assistance for Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant recipient and its subrecipients.

These funds are made available under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113-76) and from technical assistance carryover funds provided in annual

appropriations between 2006 and 2013 (Public Laws 109-115; 110-5; 110-161; 111-8; 111-117; 112-10; 112-55; and 113-6).

#### **B. Number of Awards.**

HUD expects to make approximately 15 awards from the funds available under this NOFA.

#### **C. Maximum Award Information.**

Estimated Total Funding:	\$51,000,000
Minimum Award Amount:	\$500,000 Per Project Period
Maximum Award Amount:	\$51,000,000 Per Project Period

#### **D. Period of Performance.**

Estimated Project Start Date:	10/15/2014
Estimated Project End Date:	10/14/2017

36-month project with three 12-month budget periods

#### **Additional Information on Project Periods**

#### **E. Type of Funding Instrument.**

Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
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#### **F. Supplementation.**

Not Applicable

### **III. Eligibility Information.**

#### **A. Eligible Applicants.**

Eligible applicants under this NOFA include:

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- For profit organizations other than small businesses
- Small businesses
- Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility:

1. Eligible applicants also include: Indian tribes, tribally designated housing entities as defined at Section 4(22) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, and national or regional organizations representing Native American housing interests. Applicants who are national or regional organizations representing Native American interests should indicate such on the one-page application summary.
2. Any organization submitting an application under this NOFA may not be included as a subcontractor or consultant in any other application. Subcontractors and consultants may be included in more than one application. Any organization submitting an application where the organization or staff of the organization is listed as subcontractors or consultants on another application will not be considered for an award.
3. Selected providers will be deployed as HUD deems most necessary across the country.
4. Since the diversity and intensity of activities carried out and work products developed may be extensive, collaboration and coordination among providers is essential. For example, HUD may task two or more successful applicants to collaborate as a team in providing necessary direct technical and capacity building assistance to specific customers or in developing products and tools or group learning materials. Furthermore, HUD may select a successful applicant to conduct overall coordination for the TA network.
5. Awardees tasked to provide technical assistance or capacity building to HOME grantees and/or CHDOs must have at least one (1) Certified HOME Program Specialist who has passed the Regulations Training exam with a score of 80 or higher available to conduct the work tasked, unless HUD determines that a HOME Certified Specialist is not necessary for the engagement. The Certified HOME Program Specialist(s) may be in-house staff of the applicant, subcontractor staff or consultant(s). The Certified HOME Program Specialist(s) must also have at least five years of demonstrated experience in administering a HOME program, including finance and underwriting; or providing direct TA on HOME regulations.
6. Awardees may be tasked with the operation of the HMIS Data Lab. To ensure the highest level of confidence in the validity of the data and value of the data analysis, the HMIS Data Lab will utilize data from a local HMIS where the participation level in the HMIS is at least 95% of the housing and service providers in the Continuum of Care (CoC), excluding victim service providers as defined by the Violence Against Women Act. Additionally, the organization must not market or otherwise sell or license the HMIS software outside of their Continuum of Care (CoC) or HMIS implementation area.

HUD does not award grants to individuals nor will HUD evaluate an application from an ineligible applicant. Additionally, if for-profit firms are eligible they are not allowed to earn a fee (i.e., make a profit from the project).

In accordance with 2 CFR 25.200, all applicants must have an active Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number ([www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com)) and have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) ([www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)) ***before submitting an application.*** Getting your DUNS number and SAM registration can take up to four weeks; therefore, you should start this process or check your status early.

## **B. Cost Sharing or Matching.**

Federal sources are generally not allowed to be used as cost share or match unless otherwise permitted by a program's authorizing statute.

This Program does not require an applicant to leverage resources through cost sharing or matching.

## **C. Other.**

You must refer to Section III of the General Section for information on the following eligibility requirements. These requirements may, where applicable, determine whether your application is reviewed or make your application ineligible for funding:

- Resolution of civil rights matters;
  - Compliance with nondiscrimination and other requirements, including but not limited to:
    - compliance with all applicable fair housing and civil rights laws;
    - affirmatively furthering fair housing;
  - Delinquent Federal debts;
  - Financial management systems that meet Federal standards;
  - Debarment and/or suspension from doing business with the Federal Government;
  - False statements;
  - Do Not Pay review and compliance with the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012;
  - Standards of ethical conduct/code of conduct;
  - Prohibition against lobbying activities; and
  - Conflicts of interest.
- 
- Each applicant must qualify as an eligible applicant under this NOFA and must have met the timely receipt requirements. See the FY 2014 General Section.
  - All applicants are required to submit a one-page application summary and list of subcontractors and consultants with the application as described in IV.B. While the application summary and list will not be scored, the summary and list are submission requirements.
  - The minimum score for an application to be considered for funding is 75 except when HUD determines that no eligible applicants for NAHASDA funding scored at least 75 points. In that case, HUD may award funds to an applicant scoring below 75 points.
  - Any applicant whose organization and/or staff are listed as subcontractors or consultants on another application will not be eligible for award.
  - Under Section 808(e)(5) of the Fair Housing Act, HUD has statutory duty to affirmatively further fair housing. Successful applicants will affirmatively further fair housing through activities as may be directed by HUD under the demand-response system. Applicants should indicate any applicable fair housing expertise in the narratives in the narratives submitted in response to the rating factors

indicated in Section V of this NOFA. The requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (Section 3) do not apply to funding under this NOFA since no Section 3 covered activity will be undertaken with these TA funds. This does not affect grantees' existing responsibilities to affirmatively further fair housing or provide training, employment, and other economic opportunities pursuant to Section 3 that result from their receipt of other HUD funding.

- Please refer to the **FY2014 General Section** for fair housing and other and civil rights requirements (Section III.C.3.b)
- Please note that federally-recognized Indian tribes are not subject to the requirement to affirmatively further fair housing. Tribal entities awarded NAHASDA TA funding will not be required to comply with requirements relating to affirmatively furthering fair housing.
- Environmental Review. Activities under Community Compass are categorically excluded and not subject to environmental review under 24 CFR 50.19(b)(3), (9) or (13).

#### **E. Additional Requirements.**

Applicants must follow all program requirements listed below:

1. Comply with all applicable program statutes and regulations.
2. Operate within the structure of the 'demand-response system.' See I.A.3 Terms and Definitions for definition of demand-response system. Under the demand-response system, TA providers are required to:
  - a) Promptly respond to assignments or requests from the POTAC/GTM or GTR.
  - b) Coordinate TA plans and activities with other TA providers with additional expertise or skills or that have assisted or are providing assistance to HUD customers in the same jurisdiction or geographic area using other technical assistance funds. The coordination may include conference calls, live meetings and/or in person meetings.
  - c) Attend and/or conduct joint training sessions, workshops or conferences with other TA providers as may be requested by a POTAC/GTM or GTR.
  - d) Conduct work only when tasked or assigned by HUD (POTAC/GTM, GTR, or Cooperative Agreement Officer or designee).
  - e) Provide deliverables and trainings in format prescribed by HUD.

### **IV. Application and Submission Information**

#### **A. Obtaining an Application Package.**

An electronic copy of the Application Package and Application Instructions for this NOFA can be downloaded from Grants.gov at

<http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>.

An applicant demonstrating good cause may request a waiver from the requirement for electronic submission. If you receive a waiver, your paper application must be received by HUD before the deadline of this NOFA. To request a waiver and receive a paper copy of

the application materials, you should contact:

Julie Hopkins  
Office of Technical Assistance and Management  
Community Planning and Development  
Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7th Street SW, Room 7218  
Washington, DC 20410  
Phone: (202) 708-3176  
Email: [communitycompass@hud.gov](mailto:communitycompass@hud.gov)

Waiver requests must be submitted in writing, either via email or mail. Waiver requests must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the application deadline date and should be submitted via email or in writing to Julie Hopkins. Written waiver requests must be postmarked no later than 15 days prior to the application deadline date. Instructions regarding the number of copies to submit, address for submission and deadline will be contained in any approval of the waiver request.

## **B. Content and Form of Application Submission.**

To assure you have the correct Application Package and Application Instructions, you must check that the CFDA number, the Opportunity Title, and the Funding Opportunity Number on the first page of your Application Package match those listed in the Overview of this NOFA. Your application will only be considered for the competition indicated on your submission.

Applicants may submit only one application. A complete submission will consist of the application signed by an authorized official of the applicant and contain all relevant sections of the application, as shown in the checklist in Section IV.B.4 below.

1. Page Limitation, Font Size and Format for Naming of Files. Narratives addressing Factors 1-3 must be: no more than 50 pages in length on 8.5 by 11 inch paper, using a 12-point font with at least 0.5 inch margin. Applications should clearly label responses by Rating Factor. HUD will not review more than 50 pages total for all rating factors. This page limit excludes the one-page application summary, list of subcontractors and consultants, HUD424CBW, and all other required HUD forms. See the FY 2014 General Section for guidance on the format for the naming of the files for the narratives.
2. Prohibition on Materials Not Specifically Requested. Applicants should not submit materials other than what is specifically requested by HUD in this NOFA, including resumes, graphs, charts, photographs, or recommendation letters. Reviewers will not consider resumes, charts, letters, photos, or any other documents attached to the application not specifically requested by HUD.
3. Applicants must submit only one application in response to this NOFA. HUD will only review the last timely application receive if an applicants submits multiple applications.
4. Checklist for Application Content. The following list is provided as a guide to help

ensure that your application contains all the required elements.

Forms for your package include the HUD standard forms outlined below:

<b>Forms/ Assurances/ Certifications</b>	<b>Special Instructions</b>
Faith-Based EEO Survey (SF424 Supplement, Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Applicants), if applicable	Non-profit private organizations (not including private universities) are encouraged to submit the survey with their applications. Submission of the survey is voluntary. Applicants applying electronically may submit the survey along with the application as part of an appendix or as a separate document. Hard copy submissions should include the survey in a separate envelope.
HUD Facsimile Transmittal HUD96011 Third Party Documentation Facsimile	None
Acknowledgment of Application Receipt (HUD2993), if applicable	None
HUD Applicant Recipient Disclosure Report (HUD) 2880 Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report	None
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SFLLL), if applicable	Submit in .pdf, .doc, or .docx format. If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the applicant shall complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Applicants must furnish an executed copy of the Certification Regarding Lobbying prior to award.
One-page application summary	The summary should state whether or not the applicant organization is designated as any of the following: a disadvantaged business (e.g., 8(a) business); a small business as defined by U.S. Small Business Administration; or a national or regional organization representing Native American housing interests. The summary should include the applicant's funding request in whole dollar amount. The



	amount requested should be based on the following: 1) the number of available personnel and the range and quality of their skills and knowledge; and 2) the ability of the applicant to manage these resources to successfully execute multiple TA engagements, develop products, and/or conduct group learning sessions simultaneously over a three-year period.
HUD 424CBW Detailed Budget Worksheet	Submit in .pdf, .xls., or .xlsx. Complete worksheet using information from the applicant's response to Rating Factor: Soundness of Approach
Standard Form 424 (SF 424 Application of Federal Assistance)	None
Narrative addressing Rating Factors 1-3	Submit in .pdf, .doc, or .docx format.
Qualifications of subcontractor firms and consultants (list)	Submit in .xls or .xlsx. List all subcontractors (firm names only) and consultants with whom the applicant has entered into an agreement to participate in an award under this NOFA with a brief qualifications statement for each subcontractor firm and consultant. If applicant does not have agreement with any subcontractors or consultants, indicate None on the list.

### C. Application Submission Dates and Times.

#### Application Deadline.

Submit your application to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit your application in paper form. Instructions on submitting your application to Grants.gov are contained within the Application Package you downloaded from Grants.gov.

The application deadline is 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern time on July 23, 2014.

Applications must be received no later than the deadline. Please refer to the General Section for more information about timely receipt of applications.

Applications must be received no later than the deadline. Please refer to the General Section for more information about timely receipt of applications.

Your application must be **both received and validated** by Grants.gov. Your application is “received” when Grant.gov provides you a confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number. **If you do not see this confirmation and tracking number, your application has not been received.**

After your application has been received, your application still must be validated by Grants.gov. During this process, your application may be “validated” or “rejected with errors.” To know whether your application was rejected with errors and the reason(s) why, you must log into Grants.gov, select “Applicants” from the top navigation, and select

“Track my application” from the drop-down list. If the status is “rejected with errors,” you have the option to correct the error(s) and resubmit your application before the Grace Period ends. **If your application was “rejected with errors” and you do not correct these errors, HUD will not review your application.** If your status is “validated” your application will be forwarded to HUD by Grants.gov.

**Grace Period for Grant.gov Submissions:** If your application is received by Grants.gov before the deadline, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of one day beyond the application deadline to submit a corrected application that is received and validated by Grants.gov. Any application submitted during the grace period that does not meet the criteria above will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications. See the General Section for more information about the grace period.

If you are required to submit supporting documentation you may either scan and attach these documents to your electronic application package or submit them via fax. If supporting documents are submitted by fax, you must use the HUD-96011 Facsimile Transmittal Form as a cover page; this form is located in your Application Package. You must send any faxes to the toll-free number **800-HUD-1010**. If you cannot access the toll-free number or experience problems using that number you may use **215-825-8798** (this is not a toll-free number). If you or any other parties submitting documents for this application do not use the form HUD-96011 that came with your application as the fax cover page, the documents cannot be matched to the application. Consequently, these documents will not be considered when the application is evaluated. Additionally, if your fax machine creates a cover page, you must turn this feature off.

**Amending a Validated Application:** If you resubmit an application that was previously validated by Grants.gov, all documents faxed in support of the application must be faxed again using the form HUD-96011. You must fax the materials after the resubmitted application has been validated by Grants.gov. All faxed materials must be received by the applicable deadline.

#### **D. Intergovernmental Review.**

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

#### **E. Funding Restrictions.**

1. An organization may not provide assistance to itself. An organization may not provide assistance to another organization with which it contracts or sub-awards funds to carry out activities under the TA award. No fee or profit may be paid to any recipient or contractor of an award under the Community Compass program. HUD will determine whether the salary rates are reasonable and customary for the skill set provided and the area(s) being served.
2. HUD has established a \$500,000 minimum funding amount for successful applicants.

## **F. Other Submission Requirements.**

### **Lead Based Paint Requirements**

When providing housing assistance funding for purchase, lease, support services, operation, or work that may disturb painted surfaces, of pre-1978 housing, you must comply with the lead-based paint evaluation and hazard reduction requirements of HUD's lead-based paint rules (Lead Disclosure; and Lead Safe Housing (24 CFR part 35)), and EPA's lead-based paint rules (e.g., Repair, Renovation and Painting; Pre-Renovation Education; and Lead Training and Certification (40 CFR part 745)).

When providing education or counseling on buying or renting housing that may include pre-1978 housing, when required by regulation or policy, inform clients of their rights under the Lead Disclosure Rule (24 CFR part 35, subpart A), and, if the focus of the education or counseling is on rental or purchase of HUD-assisted pre-1978 housing, the Lead Safe Housing Rule (subparts B, R, and, as applicable, F - M).

## **V. Application Review Information**

### **A. Review Criteria.**

#### **A.1. Rating Factors.**

Of the five factors listed in the General Section, applicants should respond to the following three factors:

1. Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Experience (35 points).
2. Soundness of Approach (55 points)
3. Achieving Results (10 points)

All applicants are required to submit a one-page application summary and list of subcontractor and consultant qualifications. See Checklist in IV.B for more information.

**Criteria.** The maximum number of points that can be awarded to any application is 100. The minimum score for an application to be considered for funding is 75 except when HUD determines that no eligible applicants for a funding source scored at least 75 points. The program is not subject to bonus points, as described in the General Section.

HUD will consider the degree to which the narrative is clear, concise, well organized, and proofread (i.e. free of grammatical errors, etc.).

#### **1. Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Experience**

#### **Maximum Points: 35**

This rating factor assesses an applicant's capacity to perform the Community Compass eligible activities described in this NOFA in Section I. Funding Opportunity Description, A. Program Description, 1. Community Compass Eligible Activities. Applicants should respond to the specific questions below for at least two of the eligible activities listed below. Applicants will be scored on the relevance of their experience to the eligible

activities selected and the expertise and capacity to perform the activities as demonstrated through their response. Except where noted, the experience described does not have to be work done on behalf of HUD or its customers.

a. Needs Assessments

Please describe your team's experience and expertise in conducting needs assessments, including the following:

- How the needs assessment was conducted and the data or information used to inform the needs assessment
- The result of the needs assessment

b. Direct TA, including assistance to PHAs under HUD receivership

Please describe your team's experience and expertise in providing direct TA, including the following:

- The issue(s) to be resolved through the direct TA,
- The recipient, audience, or beneficiary of the direct TA
- The strategy for engaging with the recipient, audience or beneficiary of the direct TA
- Any challenges encountered in delivering the direct TA and how they were overcome or mitigated
- The accomplishments, including the outcomes, of the direct TA
- How the accomplishments or outcomes were measured

c. Develop and Maintain Tools and Products

Please describe your team's experience and expertise in developing and maintaining tools and products. Please include the following:

- The problem to be solved or gap in knowledge that necessitated the development of the tool or product
- The audience for the tool or product, including the number of people expected to use or benefit from it
- The strategy for determining how the tool or product should be developed and/or delivered
- Whether or not the applicant has developed tools or products to help an audience, recipient or beneficiary use or understand data
- Any challenges encountered in the development or delivery of the tool or product, and how the challenges were overcome or mitigated
- The accomplishments and outputs of the tool or product

d. Self-Directed and Group Learning (Training)

Please describe your team's experience and expertise in developing and/or providing self-directed and group learning. Please include the following:

- The problem to be solved or gap in knowledge that necessitated the development and/or delivery of the training
- The audience for training, including the number of people expected that participated in it

- The strategy for determining how the training should be developed and/or delivered
- Whether or not the applicant has developed or provided training to help an audience, recipient or beneficiary use or understand data
- Any challenges encountered in the development or delivery of the training, and how the challenges were overcome or mitigated
- The accomplishments and outputs of the training

e. Knowledge Management

Please describe your team's experience and expertise in developing and operating public websites, developing and access protected databases and websites, developing mobile applications, operating a learning management system.

- The scope of the website(s), including audience(s), # of subpages, average page views per month, schedule for updates, developing, process and frequency for seeking user input
- The scope and purpose of databases or websites with restricted access, including databases with data from multiple sources; process for ensuring data integrity, and support provided to users
- Experience integrating customizable off the shelf (COTS) products into a website, including identifying appropriate COTS products and conducting cost analysis
- Experience developing and hosting mobile applications, including purpose and audience, whether data was collected and stored, types of data, and technical support provided to users

f. Data analysis and performance management, including HMIS Data Lab.

Please describe your team's experience and expertise in data analysis, performance management, assisting grantees with data, and providing TA related to the HMIS Data Lab. Please include the following:

- Knowledge in aggregating, using or analyzing data, including HMIS data if applicable, and the purpose of the analysis
- Experience assisting customers with data reporting and analysis, including using data to improve performance or drive decision making
- Experience operating an HMIS, including which CoC(s), name of software, methods used to ensure high data quality, # of table shells for which HMIS data was provided for the AHAR
- Experience developing mobile applications for data collection, the types of data collected and technical support provided to users
- Knowledge in developing and supporting distributed reporting modalities, including types of modalities and purpose

g. NAHASDA Allocation Formula and Negotiated Rulemaking Support. Please describe your team's:

- Knowledge of and familiarity with NAHASDA, IHBG and the IHBG formula, including how Census data is used in conjunction with the IHBG formula
- Experience using data to develop alternate models of formula funding, data analysis and validation, and creation of reports describing data analyses

- Experience convening stakeholders, preparing materials to inform meeting participants, and providing logistical support for convenings

**2. Award Management and Compliance.** Applicants should identify the names and qualifications of the key staff responsible for compliance with the award provisions, federal regulations listed in VI. B. and reporting requirements listed in VI.C. Applicants should also describe their procedures and policies for managing federal awards, including internal controls and financial accounting systems. Applicants will be rated on the degree to which the qualifications described indicate ability to comply with award provisions and federal regulations. Applicants unable to demonstrate qualifications in both compliance with award provisions and federal regulations will receive reduced scores.

Resumes should not be submitted as a response to this rating factor. If resumes are submitted, they will not be reviewed.

## 2. Soundness of Approach

**Maximum Points: 55**

Applicants should develop a TA plan using the Community Profile provided below, which describes a hypothetical city, county, and Native American tribe. The TA plan should address **three (3) or more** of the Community Compass objectives described in this NOFA in Section I. Funding Opportunity Description, A. Program Description and Requirements 2. Community Compass Objectives. The TA Plan should include the following elements:

- Which of the Community Compass objectives the applicant has selected to address.
- A description of the proposed TA approach and which Community Compass eligible activities are proposed. The Community Compass eligible activities are described in this NOFA in Section I. Funding Opportunity Description, A. Program Description and Requirements, 1. Community Compass Eligible Activities.
- The specific tasks to be performed for each of the proposed activities listed above in b.
- The rationale for each activity and related tasks proposed in the TA plan.
- The names and brief description of expertise of the staff, subcontractors, or consultants proposed to conduct each activity and/or task.
- The period of performance for each activity.
- The estimated cost for each activity (use fully-loaded rates and include travel).
- A HUD424 CBW with the overall budget for the TA plan.

Applicants should reference specific data and information from the Community Profile that was used to help develop the TA plan. The TA plans should be clear, concise, well organized.

Applicants will be evaluated on the likely effectiveness of the TA Plan proposed, including their understanding of the facts presented in the Community Profile in light of the Community Compass objectives and whether the associated costs are reasonable and

appropriate to the activity proposed. In rating this Factor, the description of the TA activity proposed, the rationale for each task or activity and the personnel proposed to conduct the work will be weighted more than the period of performance, estimated costs and budget.

Applicants will be rated on the quality of the TA plan proposed not the TA objectives selected. However, HUD may consider an applicants' expertise in specific program and policy areas when determining award amounts.

### **Community Profile: Underwood City, Porter County, and Porter Native American Tribe**

#### ***Underwood City***

- An urban city in Porter County, bordered by the Porter River on the west. It has a population of 2 million people.
- Between 2000 and 2010, Underwood's population declined, poverty and unemployment rose. Unemployment has declined slightly since 2012 but remains above 13 percent.
- The poverty rate in the west side neighborhoods is almost double the rate for the entire City. 75% of the City's African American population and much of the City's Hispanic population (who is primarily Spanish-speaking) live on the city's west side. The high school on the city's west side has a drop-out rate that is twice as high as the rest of the City. The City's north and east sides are affluent and predominately white.
- The City foreclosed on and now owns 25,000 resident parcels. Since 2010 home values have increased 2% per year. There is a low supply of rental units and residents are having difficulty qualifying for mortgages and are competing with cash purchase offers made by institutional investors.
- Much of the city's public housing and privately-owned subsidized housing is located on the City's west side. Some of these properties are badly in need of renovation and repair.
- The City is concerned about the aging stock of public housing; one public housing complex was the subject of high profile media coverage attesting to poor living conditions. Much of the aging stock is also not accessible to persons with disabilities. The City would like to explore options with the local PHA about how to recapitalize its public housing to address capital needs and spur economic revitalization of the surrounding neighborhoods.
- The City received the following allocations from HUD: 2013 = \$27m (\$17.8m CDBG, \$3.3m HOME, \$4.5m HOPWA, \$1.5m ESG); 2012=\$29.3m (\$18.9m CDBG, \$3.5m HOME,\$5m HOPWA, \$1.9m ESG)
- The City's Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) manages the City's CDBG and HOME funds. HCD recently offered buyouts and several experienced staff retired.
- Two years ago, HCD planned to build a mixed-income rental housing project on the City's north side, using HOME and CDBG funds, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, and private funding. The City dropped the planned development after community opposition and built a park. The HOME funds planned for this

- project have not been assigned to another project.
- HCD has multiple financial systems (commitments and expenditures) that are not reconciled, and delayed processing of reimbursement payments has caused subrecipients to wait more than 90 days for payment.
  - The City's Consolidated Plan is due in April 2015 and its Analysis of Fair Housing Impediments is due in December 2014. Because there are no recent fair housing findings or lawsuits, the City Manager believes that HCD is meeting its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing.
  - The Underwood City Housing Authority (UCHA) has been placed into administrative receivership. UCHA is an independent public housing agency created by state law and operates 21 low-rent and mixed income project groupings with 3,400 units under an Annual Contributions Contract (ACC). The properties include seven large traditional family sites, eight elderly high rises, and 200 scattered single family homes.
  - UCHA administers 7,000 Housing Choice Vouchers, including 250 Project-Based Vouchers and 200 Moderate Rehabilitation units but is underutilizing its vouchers and voucher funding. Many of UCHA's units are in deplorable condition, located in areas of the City plagued with high crime and high poverty, and less than 70 percent occupied. The PHA's Board of Commissioners does not meet regularly, and the Executive Director often seeks approval on major decisions by calling the Board Chair, whom she knows personally from a prior job.
  - UCHA has troubled Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) scores for physical, financial, management operations, and capital fund and near troubled Section 8 Management Assessment System (SEMAP) scores. In the past two years UCHA's auditor provided Disclaimers of Opinion because UCHA's books and records were unauditable. UCHA was spending more than it was taking in on excessive benefits, underutilized equipment and vehicles, and unnecessary services and fees to the City.
  - HCD manages the Underwood City Continuum of Care (CoC), which is in the third year of operating a coordinated assessment process. The CoC would like to be a Unified Funding Agency (UFA) for the 74 organizations operating 125 projects. Many of the homeless persons served by the Underwood City CoC come from the County because the City has more services and housing than the County. The Mayor has asked HCD for a plan to address the increasing number of homeless persons. The CoC provided one table shell (FAM TH) for the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) for 3 years and is ready to submit FAM PH table shell for the next AHAR.
  - The CoC implemented a "housing first" model, but low rates of obtaining and maintaining housing continue. CoC has undertaken an analysis to determine which transitional housing units may be ready for conversion to interim, rapid, or permanent housing. CoC has utilized reallocation by reducing all project budgets by 5%.
  - The City is interested in exploring how homeless persons can access mainstream HUD resources by taking advantage of policy changes allowing preference for homeless persons in PIH and HUD-assisted multifamily housing.
  - The City's Department of Public Health (DPH) administers HOPWA funds. DPH



does not collaborate with HCD and has HUD monitoring findings related to subrecipient oversight.

- A nonprofit developer owns a Section 236 property, Prosper Quarters, located in the fast-growing northern section of Underwood City. Prosper Quarters has 120 one-bedroom and 80 two-bedroom units including 30 units assisted under a Section 8 contract.
- The mortgage maturity date for Prosper Quarters is January 3, 2015, and the note does not state that the owner must first receive permission from HUD in order to prepay the mortgage. The Section 236 mortgage includes monthly HUD Interest Reduction Payment (IRP) subsidies. There is \$84,000 remaining in the IRP account.
- The owner received a Flexible Subsidy Operating Assistance loan from HUD, which is due upon prepayment of the mortgage, and the owner has no financial incentive to preserve the property's affordability.

### ***Porter County***

- 320 square miles, population of 910,000. Much of the recent immigrant population in the region lives in Porter County.
- County's Consolidated Plan due November 2015. The County's FY14 formula awards were: \$3M CDBG, \$1.4M HOME and \$250,000 ESG. The County is a Presidentially-declared disaster area and received \$7 million in CDBG disaster recovery funds to address damage to infrastructure, businesses and homes from an EF5 tornado in May 2012.
- The County placed the Disaster Recovery Plan on its website only in English and invited the public to type in any comments into an online form.
- The County's Disaster Recovery Action Plan describes several construction and rehabilitation projects that will result in a significant amount of new HUD-funded employment and contracting opportunities. Staff within the County are unsure of how to find and recruit qualified residents and businesses to meet Section 3 requirements.
- A local developer of affordable housing, R.T. Partners, recently joined the Better Buildings Challenge and pledged to reduce portfolio-wide energy consumption by 20 percent over the next 10 years. They plan to begin with a 60-unit project-based rental assistance building in Porter County.
- The building was last renovated in 1999 and energy-use intensity for the property is not known. The units are individually metered for electricity and gas with separate meters for the common areas. Tenants complain about drafty windows and energy bills for the common areas have risen significantly over several years. R&T Partners is exploring the potential of installing rooftop solar PV but is not sure of its financing options or an optimal site for installing renewables.
- J.R. Housing Inc., a non-profit housing counseling intermediary, oversees a network of 10 housing counseling sub-agencies that provide housing counseling and education services to residents of Underwood City, Porter County and surrounding counties. However, a recent survey suggests that many Porter County residents are unaware of the housing counseling services available to them.
- J.R. Housing Inc. wants to expand services offered by its sub-agencies from current

mortgage default counseling to first-time homebuyer, rental and post-purchase counseling and education, but several sub-agencies have little or no experience delivering these services and others are struggling to keep up with the administration, data collection, and reporting for its current services.

- Porter County staff and staff from the three largest nonprofit applicants share responsibility for managing the Porter County CoC planning and application process. Significant staff turnover has occurred in the last four years due to budget cuts and County staff retirements. The CoC is interested in merging with the Underwood City CoC but is concerned about not getting their fair share of funding for projects. Other concerns include the political process in the City and the City's desire to be a UFA and impact on applicants. Allegations of unfair processes at the City CoC have been submitted to the CoC Board, which includes representatives from the City Council, Mayor's office, the two largest housing providers and the largest emergency shelter.
- The County CoC has 15 applicants operating 38 projects and is unsure of how to begin funding and locating additional affordable rental units.
- The County struggles to connect homeless persons with mainstream HUD resources, including multifamily HUD-assisted housing and HOPWA projects funded by State allocation to the County.
- A large nonprofit operates HMIS for both Underwood City and Porter County CoCs but is understaffed to adequately train and serve all HMIS users. Complaints about level of service end users are received from HMIS administering staff; some would like a new HMIS lead agency.
- The Porter County CoC has never submitted HMIS data for AHAR, but conducts an annual Housing Inventory Count and a biennial Point in Time Count. There is widespread data inconsistency in emergency shelter data and inaccuracies in Annual Performance Reports for over half of the CoC's projects.

#### Porter Native American Tribe

- The Porter Native American Tribe is a few miles to the southwest of Porter County.
- The Tribe receives Indian Housing Block Grant funds but has historically struggled to complete its Indian Housing Plan.
- Recently, many of the staff responsible for managing the IHBG funds for the tribe retired or left for other jobs. While new staff have been hired, there are still a number of vacancies, including the Executive Director position.
- A recent HUD audit had multiple findings of tribe's Indian Housing Block Grant related to environmental review, recordkeeping and procurement, and inaccuracies in its Indian Housing Plan.
- The Tribe also needs assistance with receiving an IHBG allocation and must prepare a formula response form and submit it to HUD to accurately report its IHBG formula-related data. The Tribe is seeking to submit formula-related challenges to HUD, including challenges to FCAS counts, and a census challenge under the needs component of the IHBG formula. The Tribe is unsure of the formula program requirements that govern these submissions.
- The Tribe has nominated a tribal representative to participate on a negotiated rulemaking committee made up for tribal representatives to negotiate a proposed

rule with HUD governing NAHASDA program requirements. The Indian tribes need technical formula-related support to effectively participate in the negotiated rulemaking process. This includes administering IHBG formula simulations, providing formula-related expert technical assistance to committee members, providing overall logistical support to coordinate committee meetings, and related support.

### **3. Achieving Results**

**Maximum Points: 10**

Using the TA plan provided in response to Rating Factor 2, applicants should define and describe the outputs and outcomes for the tasks and activities in the TA plan. The outcomes should be able to demonstrate the success of the TA. Applicants should also describe how the outcomes will be measured.

HUD will evaluate whether the outputs and outcomes identified by the applicant are both measurable and appropriately related to the TA proposed. For HUD's definition of outcome and output for the purpose of this NOFA, please see I.A.3. Terms and Definitions.

#### **A.2. NOFA Priorities.**

#### **A.3. Bonus Points**

This Program chooses not to award bonus points.

### **B. Reviews and Selection Process.**

1. Review Types. Two types of reviews will be conducted. First, HUD will review each application to determine whether it meets threshold eligibility requirements. Second, applications will be reviewed by panels consisting of at least two independent reviewers and a panel manager. The reviewers will review and assign scores to applications that meet threshold eligibility requirements using the Factors for Award noted in Section V.A.

#### **2. Ranked Order.**

Once scores have been assigned, applications will be listed in ranked order. The amount awarded to applications ranked within the fundable range (i.e., a score of 75 or more points overall, with the exception of eligible applicants for NAHASDA funds if none score 75 points or above) will be determined according to the factors described below in 4. Funding Decisions and may not be funded in ranked order.

3. Threshold Eligibility Requirements. All applicants requesting funding to provide TA or capacity building under the Community Compass program must be in compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section III of this NOFA in order to be reviewed, scored, and ranked. Applications that do not meet one or more of these threshold requirements, and applications that were received after the deadline (see Section IV.C of the FY2014 General Section), will be considered ineligible for funding.

4. Funding Decisions. In determining the amount awarded to a successful applicant, HUD will take into consideration the amount of funds available, the final score assigned to the

application by HUD reviewers, and HUD's overall technical assistance needs to establish a range of subject matter expertise, geographic coverage and capacity to serve HUD's customers. For prior awardees, HUD may consider information from a Contracting Officer, Government Technical Representative, Government Technical Monitor and/or other HUD staff as appropriate on past performance. There may be insufficient funds available to make an award to every application scoring within the fundable range.

5. Corrections to Deficient Applications. Applicants will have 14 calendar days in which to provide missing information requested by HUD. Instructions on submission of cures for deficiencies will be provided by HUD. See Section V.C.2 of FY2014 General Section for additional information on the process to be followed for corrections to deficient applications.

### **C. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates.**

September 29, 2014

## **VI. Award Administration Information.**

### **A. Award Notices.**

1. HUD will send written notifications to both successful and unsuccessful applicants. A notification sent to a successful applicant is not an authorization to begin performance. Upon notification that an applicant has been selected for award, HUD will request additional information to be submitted or may work with the applicant to amend information that was already submitted as part of the application, as described below in Sections VI.A.1 through 3. and Sections VI.B and C.

#### **2. Budget.**

Applicants responding to this NOFA to conduct technical assistance, capacity building, and data analysis or research activities under the demand-response model will not know at the time of application the specific activities they will be asked to carry out over the course of the performance period, the location of the engagements and their duration. Therefore, the budget submitted by applicants should reflect all costs for work proposed in the TA plan developed for rating factor 2, using HUD424CBW. A cooperative agreement without a formal budget can be executed so long as HUD has other specific information (e.g., the award amount and the activities that the applicant has the capacity to carry out). In cases where HUD cannot successfully conclude negotiations on a cooperative agreement with a selected applicant or a selected applicant fails to provide HUD with requested information as part of the negotiation process, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this instance, HUD may offer an award and proceed to negotiate with another applicant.

No fee or profit may be paid to any recipient or contractor of an award under the Community Compass program.

HUD requires that selected applicants participate in negotiations to determine an administrative budget. The administrative budget must clearly identify the labor, associated indirect, travel, and material and supply costs associated with the provider's management of the award. The administrative budget must track the different sources of funding and

associate administrative costs to each source.

Administrative costs mean reasonable direct and associated indirect costs of overall TA award management and evaluation, including:

- (a) Salaries, wages, benefits and related costs for developing and negotiating the budget, developing systems and schedules for ensuring compliance with the award, preparing reports required under the award, attending HUD-required training, submitting billing information, management or supervision of persons carrying out the TA activities;
- (b) Travel costs related to administration of the award;
- (c) Administrative services performed under third-party contracts or agreements, such as general legal services, accounting services, and audit services;
- (d) Other costs for goods and services required for the administration of the award, including rental or purchase of equipment, insurance, utilities, office supplies, and rental and maintenance of office space. Rental and maintenance of office space is allowed only under the following conditions:
  - 1. The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible for a person with disabilities;
  - 2. No repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with funds provided under this NOFA;
  - 3. Properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased or rented with federal funds.

Administrative costs shall be segregated in a separate cost center within the awardee's accounting system. When developing the administrative budget for the award, the administrative costs are limited depending on the total award amount. Administrative costs associated with the management of the award are capped as listed below:

AWARD AMOUNT	MAXIMUM ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS
\$1,000,000 and over	10% of award
\$500,000- \$999,999	15% of award

Costs may be denied or modified if HUD determines that they are not allowable, allocable, and/or reasonable. In cases where HUD cannot successfully conclude negotiations with a selected applicant or a selected applicant fails to provide HUD with requested information, an award will not be made to the applicant. In this instance, HUD may offer an award and proceed with negotiations with another applicant.

3. Debriefing. See FY2014 General Section.

## **B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements.**

Certain Administrative and National Policy Requirements apply to all HUD programs, including this NOFA. For a complete list of these requirements, see Section VI.B. of the General Section.

After selection for funding but prior to award, applicants must submit financial and administrative information to comply with the cooperative agreement provisions and applicable requirements as follows:

- Awards to non-profit Organizations will be governed by 24 CFR part 84 Uniform Administrative Requirements.
- Awards to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations will be governed by 2 CFR part 215 (also known as OMB Circular A-110); OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.
- Awards to state and local governments, Indian Tribes, and tribally designated housing entities will be governed by 24 CFR part 85 Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State, Local, and Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Governments; OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.
- Awards to commercial/for-profit organizations will be governed by 24 CFR part 84 Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organizations (HUD as the federal awarding agency applies part 84 to for-profits; 2 CFR part 215 (also known as OMB Circular A-110); OMB Circular A-133 (HUD's audit requirements for commercial/for-profit recipients are covered by A-133).

OMB has revised 2 CFR part 214 and part 215 but the new requirements will be effective for awards made after December 26, 2014.

Applicants must submit a certification from an Independent Public Accountant or the cognizant government auditor, stating that the applicant's financial management system meets prescribed standards for fund control and accountability. Non-compliance with the applicable uniform administrative requirements and implementation of those requirements along with the cooperative agreement provisions may cause HUD to impose sanctions, restrictions, or terminate the award.

NAHASDA funds awarded under this NOFA are subject to Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Act (25 U.S.C. 450e(b)). Preference in the award of subcontracts for NAHASDA TA-funded selected applicants under this NOFA shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be given to Indian organizations and Indian-owned economic enterprises as defined in section 3 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1452). In section 3 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 "economic enterprise" is defined as any Indian owned commercial, industrial, or business activity established or organized for the purpose of profit, except the Indian ownership must constitute not less than 51% of the enterprise.

### **C. Reporting.**

Please refer to Section VI of the General Section for a description of the general reporting requirements applicable to this NOFA.

1. Additional information about Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requirements is also available at [www.fsrs.gov](http://www.fsrs.gov) under the OMB Guidance link.
2. Program Progress. Awardees will be required to submit Quarterly Performance Reports in a manner specified by HUD, with actual outputs and outcomes achieved, and a narrative explanation of any disparity between projected and actual results.
3. Accounting for Costs Separately. Applicants awarded funds from multiple sources under this NOFA (i.e. Transformation Initiative TA, HMIS TA, NAHASDA TA, PHA Administrative Receivership and Recovery, HEARTH TA) will be required to account for costs separately under each award.

## **VII. Agency Contact(s).**

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFA. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications.

Questions regarding specific program requirements should be directed to the point of contact listed below.

Applicants should contact Julie Hopkins, Director, Technical Assistance Division, HUD Headquarters, by e-mail at [communitycompass@hud.gov](mailto:communitycompass@hud.gov) or by phone at 202-708-3176. Questions regarding the FY2014 General Section should be directed to the Grants Management Office 202-708-0667 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

Questions concerning the General Section should be directed to the Office of Strategic Planning and Management, Grants Management and Oversight Division at 202-708-0667 (this is not a toll-free number).

Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access these numbers via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

## **VIII. Other Information.**

HUD is required to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). This Act governs the collection of information from the public including responses to this NOFA. HUD may not collect this information, and you are not required to complete these forms unless they display current, valid OMB control number(s). The results of this collection will not be published or be used for statistical purposes.

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the environment has been made for this NOFA in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 50, which implement section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)). The FONSI is available for inspection at HUD's Funds Available web page at [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail)

HUD Reform Act. The provisions of the HUD Reform Act of 1989 that apply to the Community Compass NOFA are explained in the General Section.